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THE KNOXVILLE WHIG.

Knoxville, Tenn., October 18, 1865.

Proceedings of a General Court Martial,

Present, the same members as it last meeting, the udge Advocate, the Accused, and Counsel
The court continued the trial of the accused, Jo Parsons, Colonel, 9th Tennessee Cavalry.

Lt. Col. P. C. Rutherford, first witness for defendabeing duly sworn, testified as follows:

Questions by Accused.—What is your name, rank, and where do you reside. Ans. P. C. Butherford, Lieut. Col., 9th Tennessee Cavalry, Knox county,

Are you acquainted with the accused. Col. Parsons? How long have you known him? What is and has hitherto been his character as an officer and a citizen? When and where did your official connection with him begin? Ans. Yes, sir, I have known him fifteen years; his reputation as a citizen and a gentleman is good; he is a good and efficient officer; he is kind to his officers and men. At Lexication Kw. May 1863 my official connection with ngton, Ky., May, 1863, my official connection with

Were you acquainted with John A. Thornhill? When and where and under what circumstances did you first meet him? Ans. I became acquainted with him at Lexington, Ky., about the 15th of May, 1863. He came there with a squad of recruits brought by Lieut. John G. Sawyers, 9th Tennessee

Cavalry.

What connection had Thornhill with the 9th Tennessee Cavalry?

Ans. He was to have been Captein of company B, if he recruited enough men.

How many men did he ever recruit for the 9th Tennessee Cavalry, and what were your opportunities of knowing?

Ans. He recruited between fifteen and twenty men for the regiment, according to the rolls of the regiment.

the rol is of the regiment.

How long did Thornhill remain wi... the 9th in Kentucky? Under what circumstances and for what purpose did he leave? Ans. About two months. He left to come to East Tennessee to re-

When and where did you next see him? Ans.
saw him at Kroxville, October 9, 1863.
Was the regiment then at Knoxville? When did
it get there, and how long did it remain there? Ans.
It was; it arrived October 9th, 1863, and remained

It was; it arrived October 9th, 1863, and remained until 15th of Deceraber following.

Who commanded the brigade to which the 9th was attached on the march to Kentucky? Ans. Col. Casement, 103d Ohio Infantry.

Did Thornhill remain behind? If so, state all you know on this subject? Ans. He remained behind. I saw him leave the command at Knoxville when we were ordered to Kentucky. Col. Casement told me he gave him no authority to remain behind.

What was Thornhill's conduct while the regiment was at Knoxville? Ans. It was very insubordi-

was a Knowlille on first while the regiment was a Knowlille of the same appeared to the command? When and Col. Farons the two command? When and Col. Farons at Nativille between him and Col. Parons at Nativille between him and Col. Farons at Nativille between him and the company for which he had recruited, Col. Farons had the twice without seed to the state of the same appointed. M. Col. Farons had the had the right; that the man appointed. M. Col. Farons had the had he had the company for which he had recruited, Col. Farons had the had he had the had he had the had not had the had the had the had not had the had the had not had the had the had not had the had the had the had not had the had the had not had the had the had the had the had not had the had th

What was the bearing of Thornhill when te came to Parsons' tent, and up to the time of the shooting, and what was that of Col. Parsons? Ans. Thorn-

and what was that of Col. Parsons? Ans. Thornhill was talking very insultingly to the Colonel, and
the Colonel talked to him very gentlemanly.

What ée you know about the release of Thornhill, and upon what terms and conditions was he
a ischarger, and at whose instance was he released?

A. w. My understanding from Col. Parsons, and the
Provest Marshal, was that Col. Parsons went to the
Provest Marshal and told him to release Thornhill,
provided he would piedge himself not to injure Col.
Parsons or any of his command. The Provest
Marshal told me that he piedged himself.

Was or was not Col. Parsons at the time of the
difficulty on duty as Colonel commanding the regi-

difficulty on duty as Colonel commanding the regiment? Ans. He was commanding the regiment.

What was Thornbill's moral character? State, in full, all you know in reference to his threats of victorice and hostile conduct towards Col. Parsons and other officers and men of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry? se. His general character was that of a desperado. The wahill told me at Knoxville that he intended to Court then adjourned to 8, a.M., we make the court in the street is Knowlile. I spoke to him and he spoke to me as usual. I passal down the street about fifty yards, a spiping into a store. Thornhill followed me down these. As I turned to step out of the store he was st. Anding between me and the door, and I salvel him how. He said, "I come on very well, sir, if that is what you want to know, but I don't want you to sake me the question any more. I'll give you to un derstand that you are not in Jefferson county how inquiring after my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you could spring to inquire into my character before you recide?

An W. Armstrong, fifth witness for the defence, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

Questions by Accused.—What is your name, and where do you reside? Ans. A. W. Armstrong, the witness for the country of country is one of the country. I was control to the store of have a settlement with Col. Parsons about that mat-On the 19th of June last I met Thornhill in 23d, 1865.

Newman was with him, and he professed to keep the peace, telling Thornhill to not have any difficulty with me. Newman the same evening had a difficulty with Capt. Bell.

What was Thornbill's reputation in Jefferson ounty after he left the 9th, and in what kind of usiness was he and his associates engaged? Ans. His reputation was that of a desperado; he and his associates were engaged in picking up horses for speculation. They claimed to have captured them.

Were Thornhill's threats communicated to Colonel Parsons, and what seemed to be the general apprehension of Col. Parsons and other officers of the regiment in regard to Thornhill? sins. They were going to command it himself. He told the Colonel frequently communicated to Col. Parsons. Col. Parsons expected to have a deadly conflict with him.

The testimony being read over to the witness, was permitted to retire.

The court then adjourned until 2, P. M., Aug. 22. Two, P. M., Tuesday, August 22d, 1835, court met pursuant to adjournment.

Present. same members as at last meeting, the Judge Advocate, the accused, and counsel.

Present, same members as at last meeting, the Judge Advocate, the accused, and counsel.

Wm. Ledgerwood, second witness for the defence, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

Questions by Accused.—What is your name, and where do you reside? Ans. Wm Ledgerwood, Knox county, Tennessee.

Do you know Col. Farsons, the accused now before the court, if so, how long have you known birn, and what is his general character? Ans. I have known him aboust twenty years; I consider his character as good as any man's.

Did you meet with John A. Thornhill st any time during the wister of 1803-64, if so, state when, where, and what was said? Ans. About the last of February or first of March, 1864, I met him in Union county. Tennessee, with three or four men. I had never seem him before, that I know of. When I met him a faw words passed, and some one said that was Capt. Thornhill, and he proposed trading me two horses. He told me his price, which I thought too high. After lestraining from the Capisin that he belonged to the 9th Tennessee, and was friendly to the Colonel.

Had Col. Parsons' Ans. No, Sir.

What is or was the character of John A. Thornhill seem of them.

CROSS-KIAMINATION.

Questions by Judge Advocate.—Did Thornhill seem to wanta row with a man simply because he belonged to the 9th Tennessee, and was friendly to the Colonel.

Had Col. Parsons any enomies in the 9th Tennessee and he was permitted to retire.

L. C. Hoss, third witness for defence, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

What is over a care of your connection with the 9th Tennessee Cavalry, and your supposed friendship for Col. Parsons and your supposed friendship for Col. Parsons and the officers and men of the regiment? Ans. His character was bad, from All I have heard. His conduct has seemed as though he wanted a row with them, or some one of them.

CROSS-KIAMINATION.

Questions by Judge Advocate.—Did Thornhill seem to the 9th Tennessee, and was friendly to the Colonel.

Had Col. Parsons any enomies in the 9th Tennessee, and was friendly to the

What is your name, and where do you reside. Ans. L. C. Hoss, Washington county, Tenn. I live in

Did you see any part of a difficulty between Lt. Col. P. C. Rutherford, of the 9th Tennessee Cavalry, and John A. Thornhill at Knoxville, Tenn., on or about the 19th of June last? If so, state all you know of it? Ans. I heard part of the conversation that occurred between them. The difficulty oction that occurred between them. The difficulty occurred in our store house. I was at the rear end of
the building and did not hear the first part of the
conversation. The first thing I heard Thornhill
charged the Colonel with sweaving a d—d lle against
him. I suppose he meant at a former trial he had
in the regiment. He did not mention when. He
then told him if he had any business in that house
to settle it quickly and leave. The Colonel said he
had some business, and said something to a gentleman in the store and went out. After he had gone,
Thornhill said, "It was well he (Thornhill) had no
arms with him, for if he had he said he would have
killed him." He was a good deal excited, but in a
few minutes his feelings changed, and he seemed to
regret the difficulty very much.

Had you ever given Thornhill any cause for this dangers of fire are too apparent in mills and manufactur-difficulty other than your connection with the regi-ment and your friendship towards Col. Parsons. hill and arrested him, and sent him to the Provost Marshal at Nashville. All this was done in the

After your affair with Thornbill at Knoxville, would you not have expected a deadly difficulty with him at any time upon meeting him. Ans. I would. CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Questions by Judge Advocate.—What reply did you make to Thornhill's statement "that if you did hand the pistol to Col. Parsons, he would have a settlement with you?" Ans. I told him I was ready

You made no explanation as to whether you did or did not? Ans. I told him I did not.

Question by Court.—Did Thornhill at any time molest or abuse any person or persons without a just cause. Ans. I don't know. RE-EXAMINATION.

Question by Accused.—Did he have any just cause for attempting the life of the accused at Nashville?

Ans. I did not think so.

The testimony was then read over to the witness, and he was permitted to retire.

Court then adjourned to 8, A. M., Wednesday, Aug.

standing with a man usued Carman. Thorabill came up near him (Parsons) and said he wanted a private conversation with him. Col. Parsons told him if he had anything to say he could say it there. Thorabill then commenced speaking of company B, of which he said he was to have been Captain.—

Fro, mently communicated to Col. Parsons. Col.
Parsons expected to have a deadly conflict with him.
Several other officers expected the same.

Was it safe for any officer of the 9th Tennesse Cavalry, known to be friendly to Col. Parsons, to travel even on duty anywhere about Knoxville without a guard or escort, because of the probability of assasination? Ans. I don't think it was safe when it was understood to be a friend of Col. Parsons.

At the time of the difficulty at Nashville was Thornhill dressed in officers uniform? Ans. He was not.

You have stated that Thornhill said Capt. Caldwell never should command a company that the (Thornhill) had recruited. Please state how many men Thornhill recruited for the company commanded by Capt. Caldwell? Ans. Three.

Was Marion Joses a deserter from company B. of the 9th Tennesse Cavalry? Ans. I cs., sir; he deserted some time in April, 1864.

Choss-Examination.

Questions by Judge Adoccate.—Was not Newman's difficulty with Capt. Bell at Knoxville a paisonsl one? Ans. I think it grew out of the difficulty that I have spoken of between me and Thornhill.

Were not the officers who expected a deadly difficulty with Thornhill those who knew that he considered them personal enemies? Ans. Some of them were and some were not. He considered them enemies to him because friends of Col. Parsons.

Was any officer or man of the 9th Tennessee ever attacked in going through Jefferson county by Thornhill or his friends? Ans. Yes, sir, Joseph Carman, Sorgeant, company D, was attacked by Qapt. Thornhill in going through Jefferson county by Thornhill in going through Jefferson county by Thornhill or his friends? Ans. Yes, sir, Joseph Carman, Sorgeant, company D, was attacked by Qapt. Thornhill in going through Jefferson county by Thornhill or his friends? Ans. Yes, sir, Joseph Carman, Sorgeant, company D, was attacked by Occapionation of the first pain of the fifth of the following in regard to the difficulty between Parsons and Thornhill at Nashville.

The testimony being read over to t

Have you since that time been in constant expec-tation of a deadly conflict with Thornhill? if so, upon what is this apprehension been founded? Ans. I have, on account of my arresting him. He told me at that time he intended to have a settlement with me for it.

Had you ever given Thornhill any cause for his hottility towards you, except your action under Col. Parsons' orders at the time of the difficulty at Nash-



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